

Testimony of Kathryn Bessen-Johnson in Support of:

S.J. 33: RESOLUTION PETITIONING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO CONVENE AN
ARTICLE V CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION TO OVERTURN THE UNITED STATES
SUPREME COURT'S DECISION IN CITIZENS UNITED V. FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION.

Chairman Jutila, Chairman Cassano, Members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee:

My name is Kathryn Bessen-Johnson. I'm an artist and community organizer from New Haven. As an American citizen, I believe that it's my duty to improve our country, to make it better than the one I was born into. I want to work on how we as a nation can adapt to climate change, reform our core educational methods, and reexamine the balance between social programs and private enterprise, but I cannot begin to have any meaningful conversation when my voice is not represented by the bought-and-sold politicians in federal office. To restore proper representation, we must fix our campaign finance system, and no solution is stronger than amending the US Constitution through an Article V convention. Last year, you fought to pass HJ 64, a previous version of the current proposed resolution, and we came very close to becoming the fifth state to call for an amendment to fix our country's corrupt, lopsided campaign finance system. I am proud to say that my state legislators do not take this issue lightly, but I fear that this problem will only grow exponentially with each passing election cycle. Thank you for all of the work you've done so far! I urge you to continue to fight for free and fair elections by supporting and passing SJ 33.